

256.176 Commission created.

1. There is hereby created within the higher education division of the department a commission to be known as the “*College Student Aid Commission*” of the state of Iowa.

2. Membership of the commission shall be as follows:

a. A member of the state board of regents to be named by the state board of regents, or the executive director of the state board of regents if so appointed by the state board of regents, who shall serve for a four-year term or until the expiration of the member’s term of office.

b. The director of the department or the director’s designee.

c. (1) Two members of the senate, one to be appointed by the president of the senate and one to be appointed by the minority leader of the senate, to serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.

(2) Two members of the house of representatives, one to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and one to be appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives, to serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.

(3) The members of the senate and house of representatives shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing legislator for a term beginning upon the convening of the general assembly and expiring upon the convening of the following general assembly, or when the appointee’s successor is appointed, whichever occurs later.

d. Nine additional members to be appointed by the governor as follows:

(1) One member shall be selected to represent private colleges and universities located in the state of Iowa. When appointing this member, the governor shall give careful consideration to any person nominated or recommended by any organization or association of some or all private colleges and universities located in the state of Iowa.

(2) One member shall be selected to represent Iowa’s community colleges. When appointing this member, the governor shall give careful consideration to any person nominated or recommended by any organization or association of Iowa community colleges.

(3) One member shall be enrolled as a student at an institution of higher learning governed by the board of regents, a community college, or an accredited private institution.

(4) One member shall be a parent of a student enrolled at an institution of higher learning governed by the board of regents, a community college, or an accredited private institution.

(5) One member shall represent practitioners licensed under [chapter 256, subchapter VII, part 3](#). When appointing this member, the governor shall give careful consideration to any person nominated by an Iowa teacher association or other education stakeholder organization.

(6) Four members shall represent the general public, none of whom shall be officers, board members, or trustees of an institution of higher learning or of an association of institutions of higher learning.

3. The members of the commission appointed by the governor shall serve for a term of four years. The voting members of the commission shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson. Meetings may be called by the chairperson or a majority of the voting members.

4. a. Vacancies on the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term of such vacancies, if applicable, in the same manner as the original appointment.

b. A vacancy shall exist on the commission when a legislative member of the commission ceases to be a member of the general assembly, when a parent member no longer has a child enrolled in postsecondary education, or when a student member ceases to be enrolled as a student. Such vacancy shall be filled within thirty days.

5. The director shall appoint an executive director of the commission. The director shall set the salary of the executive director.

[C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §261.1]

[85 Acts, ch 67, §31; 85 Acts, ch 212, §21; 86 Acts, ch 1245, §2032; 89 Acts, ch 83, §37; 89 Acts, ch 300, §1; 90 Acts, ch 1223, §24; 90 Acts, ch 1253, §121, 122; 91 Acts, ch 61, §1, 2; 2000 Acts, ch 1095, §2; 2006 Acts, ch 1051, §2; 2008 Acts, ch 1107, §1 – 3; 2008 Acts, ch 1191, §134;](#)

2010 Acts, ch 1061, §91; 2017 Acts, ch 172, §11 – 13; 2018 Acts, ch 1041, §68; 2023 Acts, ch 19, §2557, 2608 – 2611, 2641, 2643

C2024, §256.176

Referred to in [§256.182](#), [261B.2](#), [261G.2](#)

2023 amendments to subsections 1, 2, and 4 apply to individuals appointed as the executive director of the college student aid commission before, on, or after July 1, 2023; 2023 Acts, ch 19, §2643

Subsection 5 applies to individuals appointed as the executive director of the college student aid commission before, on, or after July 1, 2023; 2023 Acts, ch 19, §2643

Section transferred from [§261.1](#) in Code 2024 pursuant to directive in [2023 Acts, ch 19, §2641](#)

Subsection 1 amended

Subsection 2, paragraphs a and b amended

Subsection 2, paragraph d, subparagraph (5) amended

Subsection 4, paragraph a amended

NEW subsection 5